SENATE BILL 2985

By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, relative to nursing homes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The commissioner of health is directed to study the enforcement practices of the board for licensing health care facilities concerning nursing home regulation and evaluate its effectiveness in protecting the health and safety of nursing home residents. The commissioner shall study the procedures involved in inspections, surveys and investigations. The commissioner shall also study the use of the spectrum of sanctions available to the board for violations of regulations. The commissioner shall also study and make recommendations for improving the assistance offered to nursing home residents and prospective new residents who are displaced from nursing homes by board or federal sanctions against a facility. The commissioner shall report the findings and recommendations of this study to the senate general welfare, health and human resources and the health and human resources committee of the house of representatives on or before February 2, 2009.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.